

Page 6, between the second and last paragraph, please insert - DETAILED

B3 DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION --.

Page 11, third line from the bottom, please replace "zink" with - zinc --.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 19 and 32 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend the claims as set forth below:

sub D.7  
B4  
14. (Amended) A method of preparing a plasma-protein-containing medicament [from one of] selected from the group consisting of citrated plasma and a citrate-containing plasma fraction, wherein (I) said medicament [being] is substantially free from undesired metals selected from the group consisting of aluminum, cadmium, zinc, lead and iron, and (II) said medicament [neither taking] does not take up any metals when stored in metal-containing containers, wherein said method [comprising] comprises

[ - ] exchanging citrate and optionally citrate-bound metals in a plasma-protein-containing solution for one selected from the group consisting of a water-soluble monocarboxylate [ - or ], a water-soluble dicarboxylate, [or for an organic] a monocarboxylic acid [ - or ] and a dicarboxylic acid, wherein the exchanging occurs under non-precipitating conditions,

[ - ] recovering at least one plasma protein, and

[ - ] finishing said medicament.

Claim 15, line 1, please replace "for" with - forth --.

Sub c1  
16. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 14, wherein said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals is **[effected by]** **performed using** a salt of **[an organic]** **a** carboxylic acid having 2 to 20 carbon atoms.

B5  
Sub D4  
17. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 14, wherein said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals is **[effected by]** **performed using** at least one substance selected from the group consisting of a caprylate and a tartrate.

18. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 14, wherein said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals is **[effected by]** **performed using** by **[an organic]** **a monocarboxylic[-]** or dicarboxylic acid having 2 to 4 carbon atoms.

Sub D5  
B6 contd.  
20. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 14, wherein said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals **[effected]** **is** **performed** during one of a diafiltration, ultrafiltration, gel permeation chromatography and a chromatographic separation method **[, enabling a separation of said at least one protein from salts]**.

21. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 14, further comprising subjecting said plasma-protein-containing solution to at least one of a purification and a concentration procedure before said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals.

Sub D5  
Cont.

22. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 14, further comprising subjecting said plasma-protein-containing solution to a treatment for virus inactivation [of any viruses possibly present].

23. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 22, wherein said treatment for virus inactivation is [effected] performed before said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals.

B6  
Recond

24. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 22, wherein said treatment for virus inactivation is [effected] performed after said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals.

25. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 22, wherein said treatment for virus inactivation is [effected] performed before and after said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals.

sub D77  
27. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 22, wherein said treatment for virus inactivation is [effected] performed immediately after said recovering of at least one plasma protein [,] in the presence of the monocarboxylate[-] or dicarboxylate.

B7  
28. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 14, wherein the finishing of said medicament is [effected exclusively with] performed using only citrate-free components.

29. (Amended) A method as set forth in claim 14, wherein said exchanging of said citrate and optionally of said citrate-bound metals is [effected] performed in the presence of sodium chloride.

sub D97  
B8 cont'd  
31. (Amended) A plasma-protein-containing medicament selected from the group consisting of citrated plasma and a citrate-containing plasma fraction, wherein the medicament is (I) substantially free from undesired metals selected from the group consisting of aluminum, cadmium, zinc, lead and iron, and (II) said medicament does not take up any metals when stored in metal-containing containers, wherein the medicament is obtainable by  
? → exchanging citrate and optionally citrate-bound metals in a plasma-protein-containing solution for one selected from the group consisting of a water-soluble monocarboxylate, a water-soluble dicarboxylate, a monocarboxylic acid and a

dicarboxylic acid, wherein the exchanging occurs under non-precipitating conditions,

recovering at least one plasma protein, and

finishing said medicament, wherein

[by a method of preparing said plasma-protein-containing medicament from one of citrated plasma and a citrate-containing plasma fraction, said medicament being substantially free from undesired metals and said medicament neither taking up any metals when stored in metal-containing containers, and said method comprising -exchanging citrate and optionally citrate-bound metals in a plasma-protein-containing solution for one of a water-soluble mono- or dicarboxylate or for an organic mono- or dicarboxylic acid under non-precipitating conditions, -recovering at least one plasma protein, and -finishing said medicament],  
said medicament [having] has a content of undesired metals of less than 100  $\mu\text{g/l}$ .

34. (Amended) A plasma-protein-containing medicament as set forth in claim 31, wherein said content of undesired metals is less than 200 [ $\mu$ ] ng/l.